



Request for Proposals

Partnership Academies, Developing P-12 Partners & Systems of Feedback

Introduction & Background:

After discussion with Partnership Academy directors and careful review of existing activities and environmental conditions within each service area, the Council identified a need to further build relationships between local school districts and postsecondary faculty and collect information that will assist in ensuring postsecondary and P-12 education are working closely together to increase readiness at all levels and implement common core standards. Ideally, the Partnership Academy will become the point of contact for (1) targeted professional development to address college and career readiness and common core implementation and (2) for highly qualified postsecondary faculty and programs that can address local school district needs.

This extension grant will allow the Partnership Academies to develop systems of feedback between local school districts, postsecondary faculty, and the existing academy structure at Morehead State University, Northern Kentucky University, and Western Kentucky University. Proposals should also demonstrate potential sustainability of the Academies by providing evidence of their ability to organize and facilitate targeted professional development provided by postsecondary faculty to local schools within their service area.

Feedback System Objectives:

The Partnership Academy will develop and maintain a detailed inventory of school district professional development needs to address achievement gaps in college and career readiness and common core implementation. This inventory will be customized for each school within the Partnership Academy service area. Additionally, the Partnership Academy will develop and maintain a detailed inventory of postsecondary faculty at their local institution and Kentucky Community and Technical College that can assist the Partnership Academy in delivering targeted professional development. This professional development will address the identified needs that have been provided by local school districts.

As this project progresses, the Partnership Academy will not only develop a deep understanding of local needs of their service region and available university faculty and programs, but also critical points of contact for implementing successful professional development. Moreover, collaborative and credible relationships between P-12 and postsecondary education will be furthered through this process. In the future, similar needs assessments will be conducted with local basic adult education providers.

The Partnership Academy, using this feedback system will be able to develop and provide evidence-based professional development needed to improve P-12 and postsecondary systems of education in the following areas:

- 1.) Implementing high school transitional courses and programming and related placement assessments in school districts, using assessments from these transitional programs to improve content and delivery and create a shareable protocol for implementation.
- 2.) Enhancing the readiness of postsecondary faculty to instruct students moving into the postsecondary environment.
- 3.) Enhancing the transition from P-12 and adult education programs to postsecondary by improving college readiness and appropriate course placement and postsecondary retention and graduation rates.
- 4.) Feeding information from these experiences into teacher and adult educator preparation, as well as into the entire postsecondary experience.

Scope of Work:

In order to access grant funds, each Partnership Academy will submit a proposal of no more than three (3) pages, plus a budget, that fulfills the following criteria:

1. **Objectives and Activities:** The proposal must include a detailed description of the proposed activities and how they relate to the objectives. The proposal must address the requirement for a valid and reliable feedback system plan based on the Partnership Academy objectives. This plan must describe how the Partnership Academy will cultivate relationships between local schools, their districts, and postsecondary faculty in order for the Partnership Academy to provide service(s). Proposals must be well written, easily understood, concise, and well conceived.
2. **Resources and Capacity:** The proposal must include evidence of organizational commitment and collaboration. The Partnership Academy must demonstrate the capacity to carry out the aforementioned objectives and activities.
3. **Budget:** The proposed budget must be clear, concise, cost-effective, and clearly justified in the narrative. A detailed budget needs to be provided with the following items (where applicable):
 - i. Personal expenses, including salaries and release time.
 - ii. Fringe benefits.
 - iii. Contractual expenses.
 - iv. Travel expenses.
 - v. Stipends.
 - vi. Equipment procurement, repair, and maintenance expenses.
 - vii. In-kind contributions.
4. **Timeline:** Proposal must include a timeline that is appropriate and reasonable for implementation.

Award Amount: \$20,000.00

Proposal Submission Date: October 1st, 2012

Progress Report Submission Date: April 15th, 2013

Final Report Submission Date: September 30th 2013